# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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### First 1956 Report on Drosophila Control

A report describing methods which may be used by canners and growers to cut down on initial infestation of Drosophila in the field and deposition of Drosophila eggs in tomato fruit has been mailed by N.C.A. to all tomato canners.

The report was prepared by a subcommittee of the Special N.C.A. Committee on Tomato Products Sanitation with the assistance of its entomological advisers in the USDA and state experiment stations and the staff members of the Raw Products Research Bureau and the Research Laboratory.

This first report of the 1956 season on tomato products sanitation outlines principles of effective control.

A second communication will be issued by the Committee in early

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## Board Meeting Scheduled For Washington, May 18-19

The spring meeting of the Board of Directors and Administrative Council will be held in Washington, Friday, May 18, and Saturday, May 19, it is announced by President William U. Hudson. Council members will meet at N.C.A. headquarters at 9:30 a.m., May 19. The Board sessions will start with a luncheon at the Hotel Statler at 12:30 p.m., May 19, to which Council members are invited.

Charles W. Harbaugh of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce will be the luncheon speaker.

The agenda for these meetings is being worked out in detail and will be announced later.

Hotel reservations for Directors and Council members attending the spring meeting should be made promptly, and if it is desired that the Association obtain them, requests should be made to Mrs. Betty Dulin, N.C.A., 1133 20th St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. The hotel has requested that all reservations be in by May 1. Early attention to this will be appreciated.

## Human Dignity Impels Men To Efficiency, Says Hudson

Importance of the individual in the efficiency of production was stressed in an address by N.C.A. President William U. Hudson March 23 at the annual meeting of the Utah Canners Association.

"An industrial organization is a human society, involving the interactions, activities, goals and sentiments of all its people. It is the people in our organizations and the general atmosphere and conditions that surround them and in which they work that determine how much we get done," he asserted.

Men hunger above all else for human dignity and resent "compulsory insignificance," Mr. Hudson pointed out. "Recognition of these human desires on the part of all the people in our organizations is inseparably linked to good, commonsense management, of large or small companies. Enthusiasm and good morale, and hence good, efficient productivity filters down from the top and must be passed along to the various levels of departmental supervision."

Mr. Hudson urged that management learn the art of communication with employees, saying that every employee has a natural hunger for information that affects him on his job. "He wants all the information he can get about his job—the good as well as the bad. He will get this information somewhere, from someone. He probably will get a lot of misinformation along with it if he doesn't get it from management."

Management, he said, should address itself to the crying need of the individual for personal recognition and status, to the need of people who work in groups for a feeling of importance and acceptance in their relationship with others; "These are compelling needs which must be dealt with—the needs of everyone from the president to the foreman to the sweeper.

"Besides their resistance to 'compulsory insignificance' people have another basic desire—economic security. This word 'security' has been kicked around for the past 20 years, and been

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### QMC Requirements

Tentative requirements for canned asparagus and canned spinach from the 1956 pack were announced March 19 by the Department of Defense.

The announcement said that procurement plans and tentative requirements for canned fruits and vegetables to meet the needs of the armed forces from the 1956 pack will be announced periodically by groups

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## Proposals for USDA Research Made by Advisory Groups

Research work along lines of interest to canners has been recommended to the USDA by its research advisory committees. These committees are established under the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 and most of them meet annually.

*Farm Equipment Research*—Work to improve present farm machinery for applying pesticides, fertilizers, and weed control chemicals ranked high among urgent research needs in the field of agricultural engineering cited by the Farm and Home Equipment and Structures Advisory Committee.

This committee also stressed the importance of such other needed studies as new or expanded research on filtration and treatment of farmstead water supplies, development of functional farmhouse plans, and design of farm buildings better able to withstand high winds and earthquakes.

*Food Distribution Research*—The Food Distribution Research and Marketing Advisory Committee stressed the importance of investigations of food marketing costs, food handling efficiency in institutional outlets, handling of frozen foods, and the economic aspects of new methods of preserving foods by irradiation.

The committee regarded these other lines of work as high priority research needs:

Expanded studies of the costs incurred by marketing firms in the processing and movement of agricul-

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## Status of Legislation

*Alaskan fisheries*—A House Interior Subcommittee concluded its hearings March 15 on legislation to transfer supervision of Alaskan fish and game from the Interior Department to the Territorial Government.

*Anti-merger legislation*—The House Judiciary Committee on March 15 reported H. R. 9424, which would require pre-notification of certain mergers and permit preliminary injunctions to restrain mergers.

*Corporate tax extension*—The Senate Finance Committee met this week to consider House-passed H. R. 9166, to extend the existing corporate and excise tax rates.

*Customs simplification*—The House-passed bill, H. R. 6040, to revise the method by which the value of imported merchandise is determined for customs evaluation, is pending before the Senate Finance Committee.

*FDA chemical additives*—Hearings on bills to regulate the use of chemical additives in food were concluded Feb. 14.

*FDA codification*—H. R. 6991, to revise, codify, and enact into law Title 21 of the U. S. Code entitled "Food, Drugs, and Cosmetics," was passed by the House and is pending before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

*FDA imitation food*—H. R. 3692, to prohibit the interstate marketing of any "imitation" of a standardized food product, even though the imitation product is plainly labeled as such, is pending before the House Interstate Commerce Committee.

*Fisheries Commission and Fisheries Education*—A subcommittee of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee held hearings March 19-23 on S. 2379, to authorize federal funds for scientific and vocational fisheries education, and on S. 3275 and S. 3339, creating a U. S. Fisheries Commission and giving it new powers.

*Gasoline tax*—The House disagreed to Senate amendments March 19, and requested a conference on H. R. 8780, to exempt gasoline used on farms from the federal tax.

*Import quotas*—H. R. 8954 and other bills to establish an import quota mechanism are pending before House Ways and Means Committee.

*Marketing orders—cranberries*—H. R. 8384, to bring cranberries for canning under the orders provisions of the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act, is pending before the House Agriculture Committee. No action scheduled.

*Marketing orders—potatoes*—H. R. 9484 and S. 3262, to establish a national marketing control including potatoes for canning, were introduced Feb. 22. No action scheduled.

*National fish policy*—H. R. 8001 and other bills that would establish a national fisheries policy and would transfer the Fish and Wildlife Service from the Interior Department to the Commerce Department are pending before a House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Subcommittee.

*Negotiated procurement*—House-passed H. R. 8710 is pending before the Senate Armed Services Committee. No action scheduled.

*OTC*—The House Ways and Means Committee concluded open hearings March 16 on H. R. 5550, to authorize U. S. participation in OTC. Committee considered bill in executive sessions this past week.

*Poultry inspection*—Bills to provide for mandatory FDA inspection for wholesomeness of poultry, and sanitation of plants handling poultry and poultry products shipped through interstate commerce, have been introduced in both houses. No hearings scheduled.

*Price supports*—The Senate on March 19 passed with amendments H. R. 12 substituting for its text the amended language of S. 3183. Senate asked for a conference and appointed as conferees Senators Ellender, Johnston, Holland, Aiken, and Young. The House Committee will hear Secretary Benson's views of the bill in an open hearing March 27.

*Robinson-Patman Act*—The House Judiciary Antitrust Subcommittee announced hearings on H. R. 11 and similar bills for April 18-20. A discharge resolution was introduced Feb. 28.

*Statehood*—H. R. 2535, to provide statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, was recommitted to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

*Sugar Act*—The House agreed to a conference on H. R. 7030, to extend and amend the Sugar Act.

*Trip leasing*—S. 898, to prohibit ICC regulation of the duration of motor carrier leases, was reported by the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee and is scheduled to be considered next by the Senate.

*Wage-hour extension*—No action scheduled on H. R. 8553 or S. 3310, to eliminate all minimum wage and maximum hour exemptions to the present act which are applicable to first processing, canning, and freezing of agricultural and fishery products.

*Waste disposal*—The House Ways and Means Committee has ordered a tax bill to be reported in which a provision is included to encourage the prevention of water pollution by allowing the cost of treatment works for abatement of stream pollution to be amortized over a five-year period.

*Water pollution*—A House Public Works Subcommittee held hearings March 12-15 on legislation to extend and amend the Water Pollution Control Act of 1948 (see story, this page).

## Water Pollution

The House Public Works, Rivers and Harbors Subcommittee concluded open hearings March 15 on legislation that would extend and amend the Water Pollution Control Act. No date has been set for consideration by the full committee.

Representative Blatnik (Minn.), chairman of the subcommittee, introduced a bill, H. R. 9540, this session after the Senate-passed S. 890 had been recommitted to the House Committee. S. 890 would authorize $2 million in federal aid in each fiscal year 1956 through 1960 to state and interstate agencies fighting water pollution. The Blatnik bill in addition would authorize $1 billion in federal aid to help states, municipalities, intercity, and interstate agencies build sewage treatment plants.

One of the most controversial issues is that of the amount and extent of federal aid to be given to the states and municipalities. Some witnesses felt that the municipalities were financially capable of constructing sewage treatment plants, and that in many instances the possibility of federal grants would cause them to be hesitant to go it alone. Others said that without federal aid the pollution problem cannot be solved.

Another controversy is one of enforcement and how much authority should be vested in the federal government in matters of state and interstate violations.

## Farm Workers Transportation

Bills providing for the regulation of interstate transportation of migrant farm workers have been introduced by Senator Magnuson (Wash.), S. 3391, and Representative Beamer (Ind.), H.R. 9836.

The bills would authorize the Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate the equipment and operation of private motor carriers transporting migrant farm workers. Excluded from the scope of the bill, however, are migrant workers transporting their immediate families, workers transported in passenger automobiles or station wagons, and vehicles that transport fewer than three migrant workers.

The purpose of the legislation, according to Representative Beamer, is to prevent unsafe and overcrowded transportation conditions for migrant workers. The proposal is in line with Administration views regarding migrant labor.

## Lab Work on Waste Disposal

At the University of Wisconsin Industrial Wastes Institute featuring Land Disposal of Wastes, March 12 and 13, Robert A. Canham, sanitary engineer of the N.C.A. Washington Research Laboratories, spoke on the subject of Lagoon Disposal of Canning Plant Wastes.

In this presentation it was pointed out that although the present trend is toward other forms of land disposal such as spray irrigation, lagooning is still an important consideration, and it is expected that lagoons will continue to be a satisfactory treatment method in many situations. Primary considerations in lagoon treatment are odor, rate of B.O.D. reduction, and possible ground water contamination, with such other existing factors as insect control, location, and physical requirements.

Odor has been the most persistent problem and the search for means of controlling odors continues.

## Nuclear Test Presentations

The color-slide presentation of the nuclear tests of canned foods, prepared by the N.C.A. Research Laboratories and Information Division, was shown recently as follows:

February 20, to about 165 members of the Michigan Mens Club, Bay City, Mich., by Emil Lamos, field representative of Continental Can Company.

March 8 to about 70 participants in the Continental Can Company Research Fieldmen's Conference, Chicago, Ill., by E. R. McConnell, one of the members of the test team that handled the tests in Nevada.

March 15, to about 50 members of the Concord, Calif., Lions Club, by Dr. Ira I. Somers of the N.C.A. Western Research Laboratory, also a member of the test team.

## QMC Requirements

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prior to procurement, which will be made by the Army Quartermaster Corps.

Procurement will be effected by means of competitive bidding by the various QMC Market Center offices.

Prepared by the Army QMC, the following estimated requirements for the first group of items, subject to modification, are announced by the Defense Department to assist industry in planning 1956 production:

| Item | Grade | Type | Can Size | Quantity (pounds) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Asparagus | A (Fancy) | I or II | No. 300 | 3,541,000 |
| Spinach | A (Fancy) | ..... | No. 10 and 303 | 5,150,000 |

## Hudson at Utah Meeting

*(Concluded from page 163)*

given the whole gamut of definitions. For my purpose here, I would like to define it as the status where a person, through his own abilities and efforts, is able to provide for himself and his family their basic economic needs. I most certainly do not mean freedom from fear nor worry, nor the guaranteed life—which, itself, is weakening to individual character and must inherently remove from the individual the right of individual decision. But the problem of economic security for the individual cannot be solved within our system of free enterprise without management. If it *is* solved without management, it will be at the expense of our system.

"The trend for more economic security is certain to continue—no matter what political party happens to be in power in Washington. The policy will be for expanded employee security programs. Labor organization will continue to insist on greater benefits.

"I don't think we should be too quick to condemn this desire on the part of our people for greater security; and whether this desire for security becomes a tremendous incentive for productive work, or whether it leads to demands for the guaranteed life, depends on whether management makes use of that desire to win cooperation or whether it fights that desire and lets workers look elsewhere for the answer. We know that people are going to seek the answer for their needs somewhere.

"I believe the answer lies largely in how rapidly and how well we as business managers can solve the problems of human relations, and how complete a job we do in developing a constructive program regarding economic security in its total sense.

"This job cannot be done by any government agency. Experts and consultants in the field of industrial relations cannot do the job—they can only be of help. It can only be done by you and me, in our own shops. We must work at the job with our eyes focussed on the future rather than on today. If we have the will to do it in our hearts, it can be done."

A press release containing the above material was issued by the Information Division to Utah newspapers, radio and TV stations, the national wire services, and the canning industry trade journals.

Mr. Hudson spoke also at the 18th annual Canned Salmon Cutting Demonstration staged by the Northwest branch of the Association, during the Fisheries Research Conference in Seattle, March 13 and 14.

He reported on the current yearlong celebration of the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Food and Drug Law mentioning the close cooperation in compliance work as to canned foods standards and other requirements between N.C.A. and the Food and Drug Administration.

Displays of the gold emblem commemorating the Food and Drug 50th anniversary were prominent on the stage.

## 1955-56 Season Total Packs of Beets and Carrots

The 1955-56 pack of canned beets totaled 8,194,535 actual cases as compared with the 1954-55 pack of 7,737,717 cases, according to a report by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

The 1955-56 pack of canned carrots totaled 1,791,957 actual cases as compared with the 1954-55 pack of 2,009,720 cases.

The season total packs of canned beets and canned carrots were compiled on the basis of the packs through December 31 (see INFORMATION LETTER of Feb. 11, page 129) and the packs from January 1 to March 1.

1955-56 PACK OF BEETS

| Container Size | To Dec. 31 | Jan.-March | Season Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *(actual cases)* | | |
| 24/2 | 12,083 | ..... | 12,083 |
| 48/8Z | 733,175 | 9,506 | 742,681 |
| 48/1P | 2,415 | ..... | 2,415 |
| 24/303 | 5,622,171 | 246,939 | 5,869,110 |
| 24/2½ | 25,828 | ..... | 25,828 |
| 6/10 | 1,395,446 | 143,902 | 1,539,348 |
| Miscellaneous | 3,070 | ..... | 3,070 |
| U. S. Total, 1955-56 | 7,794,188 | 400,347 | 8,194,535 |
| U. S. Total, 1954-55 | 7,358,211 | 379,506 | 7,737,717 |

1955-56 PACK OF CARROTS

| Container Size | To Dec. 31 | Jan.-March | Season Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *(actual cases)* | | |
| 24/2 | 5,768 | ..... | 5,768 |
| 48/8Z | 173,733 | ..... | 173,733 |
| 48/1P | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 24/303 | 886,470 | 21,177 | 907,647 |
| 24/2½ | 490 | ..... | 490 |
| 6/10 | 664,155 | 39,886 | 704,041 |
| Miscellaneous | 278 | ..... | 278 |
| U. S. Total, 1955-56 | 1,730,894 | 61,063 | 1,791,957 |
| U. S. Total, 1954-55 | 1,878,254 | 131,466 | 2,009,720 |

## 1955 Pack of Okra

The 1955 pack of canned okra totaled 468,625 actual cases as compared with the 1954 pack of 586,528 cases, according to a report by the N. C. A. Division of Statistics.

| Style of Pack | 1954 | 1955 |
|---|---|---|
| | (actual cases) | |
| Whole okra | 47,506 | (a) |
| Cut okra | 353,481 | 250,672 |
| Okra and tomatoes and okra, corn and tomatoes | 185,481 | 217,953 |
| U. S. Total | 586,528 | 468,625 |

(a) Included in cut okra due to small number of canners packing whole okra.

## 1955 Packs of Vegetables

Reports on the 1955 packs of canned carrots and peas, succotash, and mixed vegetables have been issued by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics.

| | 1954 | 1955 |
|---|---|---|
| | (actual cases) | |
| Peas and carrots | 1,226,453 | 1,408,280 |
| Succotash | 307,307 | 216,828 |
| Mixed vegetables | 1,914,098 | 1,870,048 |
| Peas and carrots: | | |
| Northeast | 83,337 | 87,045 |
| Midwest | 607,452 | 912,335 |
| West | 445,664 | 408,900 |
| U. S. Total, peas and carrots | 1,226,453 | 1,408,280 |
| Succotash: | | |
| East and Northeast | 157,823 | 147,362 |
| Other states | 149,484 | 69,466 |
| U. S. Total, succotash | 307,307 | 216,828 |

Northeast and East include Del., Fla., Me., Md., N. Y., and Pa. Midwest includes Ind., Iowa, Minn., and Wis. West includes Calif., Ore., Utah, and Wash. Other states include Minn. and Wis.

## Pack of Canned Meat

The quantity of meat canned and meat products processed under federal inspection during the month of February has been reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service of USDA at 213,838 thousand pounds, including quantities for defense.

CANNED MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION FEBRUARY, 1956

| | 3 Lbs. & over | Under 3 Lbs. | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | (thousands of pounds) | | |
| Luncheon meat | 21,175 | 10,941 | 32,115 |
| Canned hams | 25,329 | 456 | 25,785 |
| Beef hash | 441 | 6,351 | 6,791 |
| Chili con carne | 530 | 11,850 | 12,380 |
| Vienna sausage | 141 | 4,830 | 4,971 |
| Frankfurters and wieners in brine | 16 | 216 | 232 |
| Deviled ham | ..... | 782 | 782 |
| Other potted and deviled meat products | ..... | 3,221 | 3,221 |
| Tamales | 213 | 2,580 | 2,794 |
| Sliced, dried beef | 11 | 374 | 385 |
| Chopped beef | ..... | 1,862 | 1,862 |
| Meat stew | 109 | 8,633 | 8,741 |
| Spaghetti meat products | 106 | 4,213 | 4,319 |
| Tongue (not pickled) | 67 | 158 | 225 |
| Vinegar pickled products | 821 | 1,479 | 2,300 |
| Sausage | ..... | 968 | 968 |
| Hamburger | 580 | 15,483 | 16,063 |
| Soups | 2,721 | 50,207 | 52,928 |
| Sausage in oil | 350 | 271 | 630 |
| Tripe | 3 | 373 | 376 |
| Brains | ..... | 230 | 230 |
| Loins & Picnics | 2,812 | 69 | 2,881 |
| All other products 20% or more meat | 235 | 6,411 | 6,645 |
| All other products less than 20% meat (except soup) | 355 | 20,034 | 20,389 |
| Total all products | 56,022 | 151,993 | 208,015 |

Columns do not add to totals shown in all cases since rounded figures are used. Amounts packed for defense are not included in these items. Total production, including quantities for defense agencies, was 213,838 thousand pounds.

## Prospective Plantings for 1956

Farmers intend to plant fewer acres of potatoes, sweet potatoes, dry edible beans, and rice in 1956 than in 1955, according to the Crop Reporting Board of USDA.

The acreages of these crops indicated for 1956 also are below the average plantings during the 10-year period 1945-54.

USDA reports that intended plantings of durum wheat amount to 2 million acres. Such a crop would be the largest acreage planted since 1953.

*Sweet potatoes*—Acreage intentions on sweet potatoes for 1956 are reported at 322,800 acres, 11 percent below the 1955 planted acreage and 31 percent below the 10-year average. The reduction in the 1956 intended acreage is apparently the result of the relatively low prices received for the 1955 crop, USDA said. The decline is general in all areas and in all states.

All major producing states except California and Alabama show smaller acreages intended on March 1 for 1956 than planted for the 1955 crop. California expects no change from last year, and a slight increase is indicated for Alabama. Louisiana, which planted 109,000 acres in 1955, reported intentions to plant 90,000 acres in 1956.

If growers carry out their intentions reported on March 1 and if the 1950-54 average yields are obtained, by states, a production of 30,028,000 bushels can be expected for 1956, USDA said. This compares with a crop of 38,406,000 bushels harvested in 1955 and the 1945-54 average of 43,139,000 bushels.

| | 10-year ave. 1945-54 | 1955 planted | 1956 Indicated | Percent change from 1955 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | (thousands of acres) | | | |
| Sweet potatoes | 466 | 364 | 323 | −11.3 |
| Potatoes | 1,858 | 1,452 | 1,394 | − 4.0 |
| Dry edible beans | 1,676 | 1,660 | 1,535 | − 7.5 |
| Dry field peas | 369 | 325 | 377 | +16.0 |
| Durum wheat | 2,615 | 1,424 | 2,021 | +41.9 |
| Rice | 1,804 | 1,842 | 1,507 | −18.3 |

## Stocks of Canned Foods on March 1 and Season Shipments

Reports on canners' stocks and shipments of canned apples, applesauce, RSP cherries, asparagus, green and wax beans, beets, carrots, corn, and peas have been issued by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics, and detailed reports covering the March 1 stock and shipment situation have been mailed to all canners of these products.

| | Carry-over month | Case basis | Total Supply 1954 | Total Supply 1955 | Canners' Stocks, March 1 1955 | Canners' Stocks, March 1 1956 | Season Shipments to March 1, 1955 | Season Shipments to March 1, 1956 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | (thousands of cases) | | | | | |
| Apples | Aug. | 6/10 | 4,808 | 4,549 | 2,485 | [a]2,311 | 2,323 | 2,238 |
| Applesauce | Aug. | actual | 15,153 | 15,441 | 7,210 | 7,380 | 7,943 | 8,061 |
| RSP cherries | July | actual | 3,253 | 5,027 | 819 | 1,553 | 2,434 | 3,474 |
| Asparagus | March | actual | 6,000 | 7,739 | 669 | 1,803 | 5,331 | 5,936 |
| Beans, green and wax | July | actual | [b]31,043 | 28,181 | 11,369 | 10,775 | [c]19,674 | 17,406 |
| Beets | July | actual | 9,942 | 9,089 | 4,149 | 3,990 | 5,794 | 5,700 |
| Carrots | July | actual | 3,020 | 2,643 | 1,538 | 1,046 | 1,482 | 1,597 |
| Corn | Aug. | actual | 41,906 | 34,530 | 19,390 | 14,215 | 22,516 | 20,315 |
| Peas | June | actual | 31,488 | 33,096 | 8,688 | 9,363 | 22,801 | 23,733 |

[a] Stocks consist of 2,465,823 actual cases, comprising 1,823,573 6/10's, 610,721 24/2's, and 31,529 cases of miscellaneous container sizes. [b] Includes pack from Jan. 1-July 1. [c] Includes shipments from Jan. 1-July 1 pack.

## Canned Baby Food Stocks

Details of the canned baby food supply, stock and shipment situation are reported by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics as follows:

| | 1955 | 1956 |
|---|---|---|
| | (thousands of dozens) | |
| Canner stocks, Jan. 1 | 74,083 | 77,017 |
| Pack, Jan. and Feb. | 23,983 | 22,562 |
| Supply | 98,066 | 99,579 |
| Canner stocks, March 1 | 72,776 | 71,595 |
| Canner shipments during Feb. | 12,090 | 13,392 |
| Canner shipments, Jan.-Feb. | 25,290 | 27,984 |

## Business Indicators

General business conditions during the first part of 1956 appear to be maintained with little change at the high level which characterized 1955. The long-run rise in industrial production and trade has leveled off, but there are few indications of decline at this time.

Industrial production, retail sales, and construction in January, 1956, were about the same as in December, and the highest for any January in history. Preliminary data indicate that business in February followed about the same course. In the aggregate, the first two months of 1956 have shown gains of 5-9 percent over the same period a year ago. Although passenger car output and automobile sales declined somewhat, the output of soft goods production and mining advanced to a new high. Total durable goods production has been maintained near peak levels, despite the decline in automobile production. Increases in the output of machinery, equipment, trucks, building material and steel have offset the automobile production decline. Department store sales in January were equal to the all-time peak, set five years ago, during the Korean war "scare-buying." February sales continued at about 5 percent above a year ago. Wholesale prices of industrial commodities edged up slightly in January or early February, and prices of farm products showed some recovery.

### Industrial Production

The index of industrial production at the end of 1955 was about 10 percent above a year earlier. A slight seasonal increase occurred in January, according to preliminary figures. In the manufacturing group, a slight increase in production was registered in the nondurable group while minerals and durable goods manufacturers output remained about the same. Production of major household durable goods in January was at a level about 5 percent above a year ago. Truck production was up considerably in the first two months of 1956. Steel production in January and February reached an all-time high and was 99 percent of the 1956 rated capacity. Freight car loading and electric power also increased in January.

The production of food products during December, 1955, was about 4 percent over a year ago. The production of canned and frozen food was running even more above the previous year—up about 8 percent. Preliminary data for the first two months in 1956 indicate that this high level of food production was continued.

| Industrial Production (Unadjusted) 1947–49 = 100 | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (*percent*) | |
| Total industry | 141 | −2.8 | +10.2 |
| Manufactured food products | 108 | −8.5 | +3.8 |
| Canned and Frozen Foods | 94 | −17.5 | +8.0 |

### Employment

At the end of 1955, total employment was running about 6 percent above a year ago. Employment in the canning and preserving industry was about 4 percent above December, 1954. The usual seasonal decline in number of people employed occurred between December and January. Unemployment increased by almost one-half million, as Christmas work ended in the postal service and further winter cut-backs were made in various outdoor activities. Employment in nonagricultural establishments declined by about 1.75 million between December and January (a normal seasonal trend). However, the decline in both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing was somewhat greater than seasonal.

A decline also occurred in the length of the average work week of factory production workers, from 41.3 hours in December to 40.6 hours in January. The decline in nondurable goods manufacturing was seasonal, but the decline in durable goods manufacturing was larger than expected at this time of the year. Average factory hourly earnings continued at the peak level of $1.93, but because of a reduction in the hours of work, the weekly pay declined by $1.35 from $79.71 to $78.36. This was still 6 percent higher than a year earlier.

| Employment | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | (*thousands*) | (*percent*) | |
| Total employment | 64,165 | −1.0 | +5.7 |
| Civilian labor force | 66,592 | −0.9 | +4.8 |
| Total manufacturing | 17,009 | −0.2 | +6.0 |
| Canning and Preserving Industry | 157 | −21.0 | +4.0 |

### Sales and Inventories

At the end of December, 1955, total business inventories were almost 7 percent above a year ago, and manufacturing inventories about 6 percent higher than a year ago. However, the inventory of food and beverage manufacturers at the end of December was about 2 percent below a year earlier. According to preliminary estimates, January retail sales were unchanged for the fourth consecutive month. Manufacturers' new orders in December continued to exceed sales and were higher than in November. The January preliminary data indicated that new orders declined a little more than seasonally, but unfilled orders continued to advance. Both durable and nondurable goods manufacturing showed relatively the same changes from December to January in sales, orders, and inventories. However, new orders in January continued to exceed current deliveries and unfilled orders were up about $1.2 billion during the month.

Manufacturers' sales in January, reported at $26½ billion, were down slightly more than seasonally from December. January shipments, on a seasonally adjusted basis, were down about 1 percent from December. The largest decline in shipments within the manufacturing group appeared in the transportation equipment area, reflecting the downward adjustment and output of motor vehicles. Part of this decline was offset by increased shipments by aircraft companies. January shipments of textiles, chemical and tobacco companies declined moderately from December. Sales by other major nondurable goods industries were relatively unchanged from December. Sales in retail food stores in December were more than 6 percent above a year ago. Sales from food and beverage manufacturers in December were about 1 percent above a year ago.

| Sales and Inventories (Unadjusted) | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | (*billion dollars*) | (*percent*) | |
| Sales: | | | |
| Total business | 56.4 | +4.8 | +9.3 |
| Manufacturing | 27.0 | −1.2 | +11.5 |
| Food and beverages | 4.0 | −1.8 | +0.9 |
| Wholesale, total | 10.2 | −4.1 | +5.9 |
| Retail, total | 19.3 | +21.2 | +7.8 |
| Food stores | 4.2 | +14.3 | +6.3 |
| Inventories: | | | |
| Total business | 80.8 | −2.3 | +6.7 |
| Manufacturing | 40.1 | +1.6 | +5.9 |
| Food and beverages | 4.6 | −0.8 | −2.3 |
| Wholesale, total | 12.3 | −2.6 | +6.3 |
| Retail, total | 22.4 | −9.5 | +8.5 |
| Food stores | 2.7 | −0.4 | +8.1 |

### Prices

The average of consumer prices fell 0.3 percent between November and December. Responsible for the slight decline were the reduction of the prices for transportation, food, and housing. The decline in prices of these items more than offset higher costs of medical and personal care. Canned fruit and vegetable retail food prices, after a long period of little change, and at prices relatively lower than other food, showed an increase of only 0.1 percent from November to December, and stood at about 2 percent above a year ago. January data reveal that average wholesale prices for farm product, and proc-

essed foods increased slightly as did wholesale prices for industrial products. The index of wholesale prices for farm products at the end of January stood at 84.1 percent of the 1947-1949 average, almost 1½ percent increase from December, but substantially below the 92.5 level of a year earlier. The index of wholesale prices of processed foods in January was 98.3 percent of the 1947-1949 average compared with 103.8 percent in January, 1955.

The index of prices received by farmers declined 2 points in December, but rose about 3 points in January. The prices paid by farmers in January also increased 3 points so that the parity ratio was unchanged at 80. In January, 1956, the parity ratio was 86. December wholesale prices for canned fruits and juices were about 3 percent under a year ago, while the wholesale prices for canned vegetables and soups were about 3 percent above prices a year earlier.

| Prices (1947–49 = 100) | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | *(percent)* | |
| Wholesale: | | | |
| All commodities | 111.3 | +0.1 | +1.6 |
| All foods | 98.5 | −0.5 | −2.5 |
| Farm products | 83.4 | −0.8 | −7.2 |
| Fruits, fresh | 110.5 | −3.2 | +2.2 |
| Vegetables, fresh | 90.9 | +2.9 | +9.4 |
| Fruits and Juices, Canned | 108.0 | +0.4 | −3.1 |
| Vegetables and Soups, Canned | 108.9 | 0 | +3.5 |
| Retail: | | | |
| All commodities | 114.7 | −0.3 | +0.3 |
| All foods | 109.5 | −0.3 | −0.8 |
| Canned Fruits and Vegetables | 105.9 | +0.1 | +2.0 |

## Incomes and Expenditures

National income in the fourth quarter of 1955 increased about $5½ billion over the third quarter. Compensation of employees accounted for most of the rise, although there were substantial gains in farm proprietors' income and net interest. Personal income rose about $3 billion between November and December. Most of this rise came from special year-end and extra dividends. Disposable personal income rose $5 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate) between the third and fourth quarters of 1955. Consumption expenditures increased only about $1½ billion during this period. As a result, personal savings rose from 6 percent of disposable income in the third quarter to 7 percent in the fourth quarter. Compared with the fourth quarter of 1954, personal savings in the fourth quarter of 1955 were up more than 15 percent. Personal consumption expenditures for nondurable goods increased in the fourth quarter by about 1½ percent, while expenditures for durable goods decreased about 6 percent. Personal expenditures for services were up 2 percent in the fourth quarter.

| Income and Expenditures | 4th Qtr. 1955 | Change from 3rd Qtr. | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *(billion dollars)* | *(percent)* | |
| Disposable personal income | 276.6 | +1.8 | +7.3 |
| Personal consumption expenditures | 257.2 | +0.6 | +6.7 |
| Expenditures, nondurable goods | 126.8 | +1.4 | +5.1 |
| Personal net savings | 19.4 | +21.2 | +15.5 |

## Business Failures

The number of business failures in December, 1955, was about 1 percent below the number a year ago. In the manufacturers group, the number of failures was about 8 percent lower. Contrary to the general trend, the number of failures in the canning and preserving industry, and food and kindred products generally was up. However, the current liabilities of failures in the canning and preserving industry were considerably under a year ago. Despite a 25 percent increase in the number of fourth quarter failures for the canning and preserving industries, liabilities were down 71 percent from a year ago.

| Business Failures | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number of Failures: | *(number)* | *(percent)* | |
| All business | 908 | −3.9 | −1.0 |
| Manufacturing | 185 | −3.1 | −8.0 |
| Food and kindred products | 15 | +36.4 | +7.1 |
| Canning and Preserving* | 5 | 0 | +25.0 |
| Liabilities of Failures: | *(thousand dollars)* | | |
| All business | 41,643 | −2.7 | +3.8 |
| Manufacturing | 11,164 | −18.0 | −36.0 |
| Food and kindred products | 540 | −47.9 | −46.0 |
| Canning and Preserving* | 115 | −92.6 | −71.1 |

* 4th Quarter

A postwar high in commercial and industrial failures was reached in the week ending March 15, 1956, when Dun and Bradstreet reported 300 total failures. This postwar record in number of failures in one week came on the heels of the previous record made during the week of March 1. The number of failures in the week of March 15 was the highest level in one week, since March 27, 1941, and exceeded considerably the level of 226 a year ago and 243 in 1954. A total of 298 failures was recorded in the comparable week of pre-war, 1939.

An increase in failures occurred during the week of March 15 in 7 of the 9 major geographical regions of the U.S. Only the East, North Central states and the South Atlantic states reported a decline. The rise was centered principally in retailing, where failures climbed to 151 from 122. In all industries and trade groups failures exceeded the 1955 levels in March with noticeable rises occurring in retailing, construction, and service.

## Shipments of Food Containers

December shipments of metal cans were up 7 percent over November but about 4 percent under a year ago. Shipments of glass containers on the other hand were running 27 percent above a year ago in December and showed a 14 percent increase from November to December. Preliminary figures for the first month of 1956 report a continuation of the relatively high level of container shipments to the food industry.

| Food Container Shipments | Dec. 1955 | Change from Month ago | Change from Year ago |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | *(percent)* | |
| Metal cans *(thousands of tons of steel)* | 271 | +7.1 | −4.2 |
| Glass containers *(thousands of gross)* | 11,579 | +14.4 | +27.0 |

## Lamb and Mutton Distribution

Lamb and mutton are more unevenly distributed throughout the United States than most agricultural commodities, according to data for 1954 showing the distribution of lamb and mutton for consumption by regions and states.

More than half of the lamb and mutton produced in 1954 went to market in New York, California, and Massachusetts, according to the report, which measures the production, slaughter, and consumption of these meats by states.

A copy of the report, *Distribution of Lamb and Mutton for Consumption in the United States* (AMS-93) may be obtained from the Marketing Information Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, Washington 25, D. C.

## Drosophila Control

*(Concluded from page 163)*

July containing detailed instructions on sanitation procedures which may be utilized for treating tomatoes after harvest in the field and after loading, at the receiving stations, and at the canning plant.

Canners who wish to send additional copies of the current report to their growers or fieldmen may obtain them upon request to the N.C.A. Raw Products Research Bureau.

## New Association Members

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the N.C.A. since October 29, 1955:

DAVIS CANNING COMPANY, Atwater, Calif. *Products*—Apricots, peaches, figs, tomato paste, pimientos. *Officer*—C. B. Parker, vice president.

FRANKIE'S PREPARED FOODS, INC., Youngstown, Ohio. *Products*—Spaghetti dinners, rigatoni dinners, pasta fasul dinners, spaghetti sauces with meat, spaghetti sauces with mushrooms, pizza sauce. *Officer*—John E. Vecchione, president.

NORTH AMERICAN MUSHROOM CO., Tinley Park, Ill. *Products*—Steak sauce with sliced mushrooms, mushroom gravy, butter bean products. *Officer*—Stanley J. Magiera, secretary.

G. L. WEBSTER COMPANY, INC., Cheriton, Va. *Products*—Asparagus, tomato products, sweet potatoes, green lima beans. *Officer*—G. L. Webster, president.

## BDSA Containers Division

R. Chester Reed, a veteran executive of The Texas Company, has been appointed Deputy Director of the Containers and Packaging Division of the Business and Defense Services Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Mr. Reed is supervisor of packages and shipping for all of the company's plants and locations in the United States. He has been identified closely with many improvements in the field of petroleum products packaging.

He is on loan to the BDSA for a period of six months.

## USDA Pork Purchase Program

The USDA has announced that it is discontinuing the purchase of canned pork luncheon meat packed in 12-ounce tins. The USDA will continue to accept offers weekly on canned pork and gravy, canned pork luncheon meat in 6-pound tins, and canned hams.

Purchases through March 15 comprised 177 million pounds of pork products of which 138,546,150 pounds were canned products. Of this total, 80,357,550 pounds were canned pork and gravy, 36,840,600 pounds were canned pork luncheon meat, and 21,348,000 pounds were canned ham.

### CANNED PORK UNDER P. L. 480

The USDA has issued to the Republic of Korea an authorization to finance the purchase of about 20 million pounds of canned pork costing $8 million under Title I of P. L. 480. Sales under this program will be made by private trade channels.

## Canning in Florida

A new bulletin entitled *Canning in Florida* is now being distributed by the Department of Agriculture of that state and contains 170 pages of text and illustration devoted chiefly to picturing the size, importance and service values of the industry and the canned products of Florida.

In several of the 19 chapters of the booklet prominent credits are given to the N.C.A. as the source of much of the material. Chief among these is *The Canning Industry*, a publication of the N.C.A. Information Division, designated as the source for chapters on the value of canning, the history of canning, and those on raw products and technical research. There is generous use of material supplied by the N.C.A. Division of Statistics throughout the work.

The booklet contains chapters on Florida's canning of citrus, vegetables, meats, seafood, preserves, jams, jellies, and marmalade, deals with home canning there of several of these products, and contains a directory of Florida canning plants.

Inquiries about copies should be addressed to Nathan Mayo, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, State of Florida, Tallahassee, Fla.

## This Week Magazine

Clementine Paddleford, food editor of *This Week* magazine, featured canned soups in her March 18 "How America Eats" article. *This Week* is the magazine supplement distributed with many leading metropolitan Sunday newspapers.

"Look What's For Breakfast" was the title Miss Paddleford gave her article. Serve soup hot or cold, she suggested, and went on to say, "Soup-bowl breakfasts started as a vogue in New York City early last summer and is no passing fancy. Given another few years, soup for breakfast will be an old American custom. There is nothing revolutionary in the idea. Down the years soup has been a part of the European and Asian peasants' breakfasts along with thick hunks of bread."

The ideas and recipes given in the article used canned beef bouillon, tomato, cream of chicken, and mushroom soups. Other canned foods used were chicken, corn, tomatoes, and pimientos. Mushroom-shrimp chowder for Sunday brunch was pictured in a color photograph.

## The American Weekly

In the March 11 issue of *The American Weekly* magazine was the article "Dinner From the Emergency Shelf," planned around canned foods.

Amy Alden, food editor, gave two dinner menus in her article. One menu, shown in an attractive black and white photograph, consisted of seafarer's cocktail, chili hot pot, a molded vegetable salad, and ginger fruit glacé pudding. The other menu used the same salad with creamed ham with rice and asparagus, and plum puff pudding.

The six recipes used canned tomato juice, clam juice, luncheon meat, mushrooms, green beans, fruit cocktail, mixed vegetables, cream of asparagus soup, cream of mushroom soup, ham, asparagus, and purple plums.

In another food feature in the same issue entitled "Get It Ready Beforehand," Miss Alden gives recipes for five main courses with menus for each. Canned foods are used in each menu. The following were included: pineapple, pears, tomato and mushroom soups, tomato sauce, mushrooms, ripe olives, and pimientos.

## New Vegetable Soybeans

Two new vegetable-type soybeans, developed through state-federal cooperative research, are announced by Iowa State College and the Agricultural Research Service of USDA.

Seed of the two edible soybean varieties, named Kim and Kanrich, have been supplied to commercial seed and canning companies for testing during 1956. They are expected to become available through regular seed sources following further seed increase.

Both of the new varieties are described as strikingly superior to their predecessors.

## USDA Plant Pest Control

Emory D. Burgess has been appointed Chief of the Plant Control Branch of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service. He will direct cooperative programs for control or eradication of such native insects as the grasshopper; foreign pests such as the golden nematode, khapra beetle, and Mexican fruit fly; and plant diseases such as phony-peach disease and peach mosaic. His branch also is responsible for registering pesticides and regulating their labeling, and for the weekly Cooperative Economic Insect Survey reports.

## Proposals for USDA Research

*(Concluded from page 163)*

tural commodities from farms to consumers; and

New research to improve the efficiency of food handling by restaurants, hotels, and other public and institutional outlets.

*Home Economics Research* — Surveys of food consumption and dietary levels and the role of fats and other food constituents in human nutrition ranked among the research needs emphasized by the Home Economics Research Advisory Committee.

With respect to food and nutrition, the committee recommended research on the role of fat in human nutrition; determination of the availability of nutrients from different foods; study of factors influencing food consumption by children with a view toward developing methods to improve children's dietary habits; investigation of the effects of various types of diets on human utilization of amino acids; and research on the home care of frozen foods.

*Livestock Research*—The Livestock Marketing Research and Marketing Advisory Committee gave high priority to studies of the economic effects of federal meat grading on the production, marketing, and consumption of meat products.

## Canadian Food Processors

The Canadian Food Processors Association elected the following officers recently at the association's annual convention:

President—Robert Flood, Slack Bros. Ltd., Waterloo, Que.; first vice president—W. I. Drynan, Canadian Canners, Ltd., Hamilton, Ont.; second vice president—T. R. Bulman, Bulmans Limited, Vernon, B. C.; treasurer—W. H. Heeney, Heeney Frosted Foods, Ltd., La Prairie, Que. (re-elected); manager—P. R. Robinson, Ottawa; secretary—Mrs. S. E. Gilchrist.

## Northwest Packers & Growers

Northwest Packers and Growers, Inc., elected the following officers recently at its annual meeting:

President—Courtney D. Lasselle, Portland Canning Co., Inc., Sherwood, Ore.; vice president—William J. Linfoot, Gresham Berry Growers, Gresham, Ore.; secretary-treasurer—William E. Yeomans, Portland Ore. (re-elected).

## Forthcoming Meetings

March 26-27—Canners League of California, 52d Annual Meeting, Santa Barbara Biltmore, Santa Barbara

March 27—Tennessee-Kentucky Canners Association, Annual Spring Meeting, Peabody Hotel, Memphis

April 6—National Pickle Packers Association, Spring Meeting, Drake Hotel, Chicago

April 8-11—U. S. Wholesale Grocers Association, Annual Convention and Exposition, The Conrad Hilton, Chicago

April 10—Ohio Canners Association, Spring Meeting, The Neil House, Columbus

April 23-27—National Canners Association, Conference on Statistical Quality Control Applications in the Canning Industry, N.C.A. Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

May 6-9—Super Market Institute, Annual Convention, Cleveland

May 11-12—Pennsylvania Canners Association, Fifth Annual Sales Clinic, Pocono Manor

May 15—Purdue Industrial Waste Conference, Lafayette, Ind.

May 18-19—National Canners Association, Meeting of Board of Directors, Washington, D. C.

June 3-4—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Spring Meeting, Park Place Hotel, Traverse City

June 10-14—National Association of Retail Grocers, 57th Annual Convention, Shrine Auditorium, Los Angeles

June 18-20—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., Midyear Meeting, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

June 20-22—Processed Apples Institute, Annual Convention, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

July 19-20—National Kraut Packers Association, Annual Meeting, Catawba Cliffs Beach Club, Port Clinton, Ohio

July 22-25—National Industrial Stores Association, Annual Convention and Merchandise Show, Hotel Netherlands Plaza, Cincinnati

Aug. 13-15—International Apple Association, Inc., 62d Convention, Atlanta, Ga.

Oct. 17-19—National Pickle Packers Association, 63d Annual Meeting, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago

Oct. 24-27—Florida Canners Association, Silver Anniversary Convention, Hollywood Beach Hotel, Hollywood

Nov. 7-8—Wisconsin Canners Association, 52d Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee

Nov. 8-9—Iowa-Nebraska Canners Association, Annual Meeting, Fort Des Moines Hotel, Des Moines

Nov. 11-15—American Meat Institute, Golden Anniversary Meeting, Palmer House, Chicago

Nov. 14-16—Indiana Canners Association, Fall Convention, French Lick Sheraton Hotel, French Lick Springs

Nov. 18-19—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 42d Annual Convention, Yorktowne Hotel, York

Nov. 26-27—Ohio Canners Association, Annual Convention, Hotel Carter, Cleveland

Nov. 29-30—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids

Dec. 13-14—New York State Canners and Freezers Association, 71st Annual Convention, Hotel Statler, Buffalo

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